

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**MAY 10, 2010**

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in a special meeting with the following members present: Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, Vice Chairman Warren J. Yeager, Jr., and Commissioners Billy E. Traylor, and Nathan Peters, Jr. <Commissioner Bill Williams was absent.>

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Code Enforcement Officer Michael Aiken, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, E9-1-1 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, G.I.S. Director Scott Warner, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Assistant Public Works Director Bobby Knee, Sheriff Joe Nugent, and Sheriff's Office Major Bobby Plair.

Chairman McLemore called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., E.T.

#### **DEEP WATER HORIZON (OIL SPILL UPDATE)**

County Attorney McFarland reported that the Local State of Emergency expires today, and recommended that the Board re-adopt a Local State of Emergency. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

Emergency Management Director Nelson updated the Board on the current status of the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill with a power point presentation, stating that an action plan has been submitted to British Petroleum (B.P.). Chairman McLemore discussed his concerns regarding East Bay, and Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that he is working closely with Bay County.

Chairman McLemore called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Peters thanked Emergency Management Director Nelson for all the hard work. He reported that he invited the Law Firm of Appleman, Sheppard and Trucks to attend this meeting, stating that the County has been restricted by B.P. simply because they have not approved the County plan, and the County is going to need additional representation. Chairman McLemore discussed that the County needs to rely on the County Attorney on which firm represents this County during this issue.

Jim Appleman of Appleman, Sheppard and Trucks appeared before the Board and introduced Bob McKee, P.A. of Smith and Stagg Law Firm. Mr. McKee appeared and discussed the process and procedures. Emergency Management Director Nelson stated that now is the time to start putting everything into place. Commissioner Peters discussed that we have tried to work with B.P., and have repeatedly been rejected; stating that they (the Board) have to protect the fishermen in this County.

Tom Methin of the Beasley Allen Law Firm appeared before the Board and discussed that Ron Jones is in charge of their environmental section for the firm, stating that they handled the law suit with Exxon, and also received the largest environmental settlement with P.C.B.'s.

After further discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner Traylor motioned to give County Attorney McFarland the authority to work with the different firms and bring a recommendation back to the Board. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, the meeting did then adjourn at 9:39 a.m., E.T.

**CARMEN L. MCLEMORE  
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK**